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echo

VOLUME 12, NUMBER 1 | MARCH/APRIL 2002

POTTER COLLEGE WESTERN'S OLDER SISTER



POTTER COLLEGE ROUTING GREEN KY

**2001 - 2002 Western
Kentucky University
Theatre Season**

Driven to Abstraction

by Dolores Whiskeyman
April 11 - 16 at 8 p.m.
Sunday, April 14 at 3 p.m.
Russell H. Miller Theatre

An Evening of Dance 2002

The Western Kentucky
University Dance Company
April 25 - 30 at 8 p.m.
Sunday, April 28 at 3 p.m.
Russell H. Miller Theatre

See "In the Limelight:
Scott Stroot Takes Center Stage"
on page 5.

**Studio Series Productions
Spring 2002**

April 1 and 2

The Valiant

by Holworthy Hall
and Robert Middlemass
Directed by Tennille Leigh
and **Boy and Girl**
by Michael Pettit
Directed by Chris Hendrix

April 8 and 9

Medea

Adapted by Wendy Wasserstein
and Christopher Durang
Directed by Tova Gross

and **Hard Candy**

by Jonathan Rand
Directed by Jennifer Samples

April 22 and 23

Beat

Based on works by
Kerouac, Ginsberg, Burroughs
and others
Directed by Travis Newton

All Studio Series Productions are at
8 p.m. in Gordon Wilson Hall
Theatre 100

Admission \$1
Call the Department of
Theatre and Dance
with questions,
(270) 745-5845.

Masque of the Red Death, a ballet
by WKU Music Professor Sylvia
Kersenbaum, made its world pre-
mier on Oct. 25 in Bowling Green.
The ballet was a collaboration be-
tween WKU's Departments of Music
and Theatre and Dance, and the
Bowling Green Symphony Orches-
tra. Choreography by Lees Harris
and Stephen Stone.



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On the Cover:
The Potter College building, which was razed in 1936 to make way for Cherry Hall. Photo courtesy of University Archives.

WESTERN'S OLDER SISTER

by Lynn Niedermeier

A century ago, some of Bowling Green's students complained of long walks up the steep incline of College Street even as the view from its summit inspired them to write affectionate poetry to their school "way up on the hill." But these were not Western students. They were the young ladies of The Pleasant J. Potter College. Named after a local banker who was its largest benefactor, it was called "one of the leading and most fashionable female colleges in the South."

Opened in 1889, Potter College educated both local girls and boarders in a large classroom and dormitory building located where Cherry Hall now stands. Atop its cedar-covered hill at what was then the southern edge of town, the seven-acre campus deliberately isolated students from the everyday business of Bowling Green. Western, by contrast,



Arched doorway of the Potter College building

Since 1892, when he opened the Southern Normal School and Bowling Green Business College, Henry Hardin Cherry had aggressively marketed practical, inexpensive instruction as a means to financial success and social mobility. As America's railroads, banks, trading houses and public schools generated high demand for a new professional class and Darwinian imagery dominated economic and social thought, Cherry urged both

young men and women to arm themselves for "the great battle of life" with specialized training in teaching, commerce, bookkeeping and telegraphy. Such an approach, bolstered by his belief in coeducation, led him to question the genteel traditions of female schools like Potter College. Segregation from males, close supervision, and a broad liberal arts curriculum that included "ornamental" subjects such as music, drawing and painting, Cherry suggested, produced young women preoccupied with social status, guilty of "inefficiency of attainment and silliness."

But Cherry himself was somewhat guilty of caricature.

... In 1909 Potter College was preparing to close, and Henry Hardin Cherry had successfully negotiated the purchase of its land and buildings together with some 160 surrounding acres. Western's era on the Hill was about to begin with a rich inheritance from the young ladies' college it replaced.

occupied premises at College and 11th Streets, nearer the public square. But in 1909 Potter College was preparing to close, and Henry Hardin Cherry had successfully negotiated the purchase of its land and buildings together with some 160 surrounding acres. Western's era on the Hill was about to begin with a rich inheritance from the young ladies' college it replaced.

Although Potter College's president, Reverend Benjamin F. Cabell, urged his affluent students to conduct themselves in a manner worthy of their "high position," he also called upon them to become "true and practical women" who might "fill with dignity and honor any position in society." Potter's catalogue avoided any references to careerism, yet many of the young ladies delighted in the prospects that

higher education offered them as writers, artists, nurses, social reformers, businesswomen and especially teachers. Of the six members of Potter's class of 1908, the student magazine proudly noted, five were teaching. The previous year, a graduate had written confidently of the value of her liberal education. Colleges, she believed, should not serve an "age of commercialism," but rather should stand for "the power and worth of the personal as against the mere financial" and for "democracy, self restraint, soberness and service."

Meanwhile, Henry Hardin Cherry, consciously or not, had been borrowing some of Potter College's philosophy to give his Southern Normal School even greater appeal. Recognizing a social imperative to treat male and female students differently, he promised young women a respectable school culture and the close support of lady faculty members. Where Potter College boarded all out-of-town students on its campus, in 1895 Cherry opened a rooming house for women studying business, providing a "safe and pleasant home" under the care of an "elegant matron." For teacher-trainees, he built Frisbie Hall in 1904 as "the Home for the young women of the Normal." Mindful of the popularity of so-called "ornamental" courses, in 1907 Cherry

hired two former Potter College students to teach piano and violin. The social gulf between students of the two institutions began to narrow as, over the next few years, at least 30 former Potter College girls attended the Normal School.

Cherry nevertheless felt the sting when his school, now publicly funded and rechartered as the Western Kentucky State Normal School, contracted to purchase the Potter College property. Western's regents originally had hoped to use their state appropriation to build a new campus, but inflated asking prices for vacant land had disappointed them. Adding insult to injury, some of Bowling Green's better-off citizens recoiled at the prospect of a public institution occupying the elite young ladies' college overlooking town.

Cherry, however, hastened to show his respect for the symbolic inheritance suddenly bestowed upon his institution. The scenery from the Hill "must be seen to be enjoyed—it cannot be described," rhapsodized the February 1909 *State Normal Bulletin*. The new location, it continued, was "among the finest to be found in the world. The grounds are sufficiently removed from the business section of the city to secure the quietness and retirement of a country location, and at the same time sufficiently near to have all the advan-



PHOTO COURTESY UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

Potter College's boarding students shared residence hall rooms decorated with favorite personal possessions.



PHOTO COURTESY UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

Although their elders worried about its effects on "ladylike" behavior, Potter College's basketball squads engaged in spirited intramural competition.

tages of the city" — praise taken almost word-for-word from Potter College's catalogue. To respond to a critical newspaper editorial Cherry enlisted his brother Thomas, superintendent of the city schools, to proclaim that the "best site in Bowling Green is not too good for the Normal." When Western's Regents unveiled long-term landscaping and architectural plans that included construction of a new administration building (now Van Meter Hall), the newspaper grew more cheerful about the Hill's future. "It will be susceptible of beautification for years to come," observed the editors, "the beginning of an educational upbuilding that will make Bowling Green's name known far and wide."

After two years of preparation, Western moved to the Hill in February 1911. The memory of its former occupants, however, had not been extinguished. Western's main classroom building was renamed Recitation Hall, but even Henry Hardin Cherry often referred to it as the "old Potter College building." Some of Potter's former students continued their studies on the Hill, Dean Finley Grise customarily finding them qualified for advanced standing. Also returned was John H. Clagett, teacher of Greek and Latin at Potter College, who would serve for 29 years in

Western's English Department. Two 1906 Potter College graduates, Sarah Gilbert Garris and Nelle Gooch Travelstead, would spend 20 and 44 years, respectively, on Western's faculty.

In 1930, Potter College alumnae accepted an invitation to organize as an affiliate of Western's Alumni Association, and for many decades represented their school prominently at annual reunions. At a 1932 alumni luncheon Mary Armitage, an 1890 graduate, thanked "our foster brothers and sisters of Western" and reflected on the legacy of her alma mater. Together with the loyalty of its students, she concluded, it had bequeathed to Western the beauty of its location, in which not only Henry Hardin Cherry but the young ladies of Potter College had found "marvelous possibilities."

Lynn Niedermeier's book, *"That Mighty Band of Maidens": A History of Potter College for Young Ladies, Bowling Green, Kentucky 1889-1909* (Landmark Association, 2001) will be available at the Southern Kentucky Festival of Books, April 20, 2002, and can also be purchased at the Kentucky Museum Store in the Kentucky Building.

Lynn Niedermeier is the library special collections archival assistant for the Kentucky Building and Museum.

In the Limelight

Scott Stroot
Takes Center Stage

By Kimberly Shain Parsley

Scott Stroot,
Theatre and Dance
Department Head



PHOTO BY SHERYL HAGAN-BOOTH

Scott Stroot has played many roles both on and off the stage. He is a musician, white water canoeist, Tai Chi enthusiast and an avid environmentalist, and was a registered nurse in a former career, in addition to being an actor and director. His latest and one of his most challenging roles to date is head of Western Kentucky University's Department of Theatre and Dance.

Stroot said that his varied interests and activities have helped him to become a better actor and teacher. His 15-year study of Tai Chi for example, helps him reduce stress, and improves his balance and movement on stage.

"I find that it's a practice that has changed the way I walk through the world. I use my body differently, and I use my mind differently too," he said.

Stroot got his undergraduate degree in theater and music. His soon to be wife, Mary Ann Johnson, graduated with an English degree.

"There I was and there she was and we looked at each other and went 'now what the heck are we supposed to do,'" he said.

What Stroot did was get a degree in nursing. Stroot's parents were both in the medical profession, and he said his choice to follow that path was a very well thought out decision. "My plan was always to be in the theater, but I wanted to be able to have a job that would allow me to pay the rent, have a car, choose my own hours and give me flexibility."

The appeal of nursing was that it would allow him to move nearly anywhere in the world and get a job. He didn't realize it at the time, but it would also make him a better actor.

"What I got from being a nurse

was a deep appreciation for the needs of other people," he said. "I learned to get out of my head, out of my own little theater world."

He said nursing provided him with a perspective he would otherwise not have gotten, making him more empathetic and better able to understand people vastly different from himself.

"Good artistry is more than just proficiency at your craft. You have to have a sense of the world, a sense of history. All that comes into your art, and that is what makes your art valuable and meaningful and worthwhile," he said. "Being a nurse made me a better person. That made me a better artist."

After working for a few years as a nurse, Stroot got his M.F.A.

Stroot said Western appealed to him because the Theatre and Dance Department was production oriented, allowing plenty of opportunity for students to get experience in their chosen fields, which he deems critical to their success in the world of performing arts. During his interviews for the position, he was impressed with the close relationship between faculty and students, which each spoke of without his prompting. It was clear to him that the students had bonded to the faculty, the Department and the University.

"Western does tend to focus on experiential learning a little bit more than other places I know," he said.



PHOTO BY STEPHEN K. STONE

Lea Kohl and Christina West appeared in the recent WKU production of the Broadway hit, *Chicago* by John Kander and Fred Ebb.

"Here, the study of theater arts and dance is taken very seriously, and that was very important to me."

Students certainly aren't lacking for performance opportunities this semester. In addition to the recent success of *Chicago*, a collaborative effort with the Music Department, the Theatre and Dance Department has a full schedule of events throughout the remainder of the semester. (See inside cover.) Stroot himself will be directing, *Driven to Abstraction*, by Dolores Whiskeyman, a Washington playwright who will be coming to campus to conduct some playwriting workshops and to talk to the audience after opening night, April 11, about the process of play development. This will be only the second production of the play. Stroot directed the first production also, and has been working with Whiskeyman on some rewrites.

Another production creating excitement in the Department is, *An Evening of Dance*, a yearly faculty dance concert. This year's performance will have a unique cultural flare thanks to a federal grant. Each year, Dance U.S.A. gives \$10,000 to one university per state to use toward bringing in choreographers or to restage historical dance pieces. It is a one-time grant, which Western received on its first attempt.

The grant is being used to bring in two master choreographers whose work, in addition to that of dance faculty members Lees Harris and Stephen Stone, will be performed by the Western Kentucky University Dance Company at *An Evening of Dance*, April 25-30. Irmah Del Valle, a master choreographer from Cuba, came to campus for a week to teach the students a dance in the Afro-Cuban style. The second master choreographer, Billy Siegenfeld, owns a dance company in Chicago called the Jump Rhythm Jazz Project, which specializes in rhythmic tapping and jazz and tours all over the U.S.

Harris describes her choreography for *An Evening of Dance* as a Middle Eastern/Indian style, while Stone's choreography is the result of research he conducted in Paris over the holiday break on the origins of court dance.

"These are public performances that we market, so we are also bringing this cultural enrichment to the University community and to the local and regional communities as well," Stroot said.

According to Harris, for a show like *An Evening of*

Dance, the students rehearse two hours a day, Monday through Thursday, and maintain that schedule for four or five months. She said it takes approximately one hour just to create one minute of choreography. She bragged on the dedication of her students to devote that much time, attention, energy and hard work to such a physically demanding endeavor.

Harris said that many people do not understand the amount of work and devotion involved in a career in the performing arts, rather they think it is all fun and talent. She said it isn't like becoming a lawyer or an accountant, where you get a certificate and then you get to practice your trade.

"It takes many years of technical training to get to a point where you can actually work in the field," she said. "In dance, you never stop learning and you never get to that point where bingo — you're perfect, you're a dancer. You'll be a good dancer but you're always trying to get better. You're always in training. You're always having to beat out the person next to you for a job."

Harris said the Theatre and Dance Department gives about 20 performances during the academic year to give students ample opportunity to gain valuable working experience.

Under Stroot's direction, the Department is currently involved in exploring changes to its curriculum to create more flexibility in its programs to better meet students' expectations and demands. Stroot believes that every success on the stage is due to teamwork. This philosophy is guiding his approach to curriculum changes as well. He met with each faculty member in the

Department individually, and questioned focus groups of students.

"I asked them if I gave you a magic wand and you could wave it, what would you change here to make it better and what would you make sure didn't change," he said.

Harris said that willingness to ask questions and listen to and seek the opinions of others, coupled with Stroot's creativity and knowledge of so many aspects of the theater, makes him an effective and natural head of a theater department.

"We want our Department to compete with some of the better departments in the United States," she said, "and he is not afraid of that challenge."



A scene from *The Masque of the Red Death*

PHOTO BY MARTIN O'CONNOR

Meeting the Challenge

By Jim Flynn

***"The art of progress is to preserve order amid change, and to preserve change amid order."* —**

Alfred North Whitehead

If you have had a chance to examine the latest Progress Report on WKU's strategic plan, *Challenging the Spirit*, you may have noticed that this year's version covers some of the same territory as in past reports but offers a few new wrinkles as well.

The latest report, like its two predecessors, gives a concise overview of how the University has done in meeting its self-imposed performance indicators during the past fiscal year, but this report also serves as a transition from the original version of *Challenging the Spirit* to an updated version.

However, the core of WKU's plan has not changed. The vision statement remains the same: Western Kentucky University aspires to be the best comprehensive public institution in Kentucky and among the best in the nation.

The mission also remains the same: Western Kentucky University shall produce nationally and globally competitive graduates and provide optimum service and lifelong learning opportunities for its constituents.

And the five strategic goals are the same with one slight revision — can you spot the change?

- Goal 1: Increasing Student Learning
- Goal 2: Developing the Student Population
- Goal 3: Assuring High-Quality Faculty and Staff
- Goal 4: Enhancing Responsiveness to Constituents
- Goal 5: Improving Institutional Effectiveness

Yes, Goal 2, in the original plan was "Developing the Student Body," which to many implied that students pumping iron at the Preston Center was among our highest institutional priorities. The revised version helps to keep the focus on the intent of the goal: to attract, retain, and graduate diverse, academically talented and achievement-oriented students.

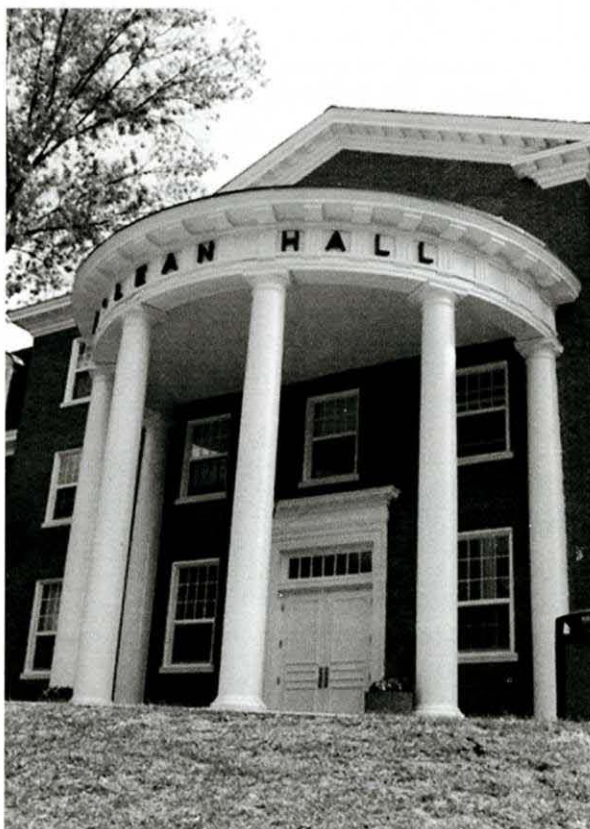
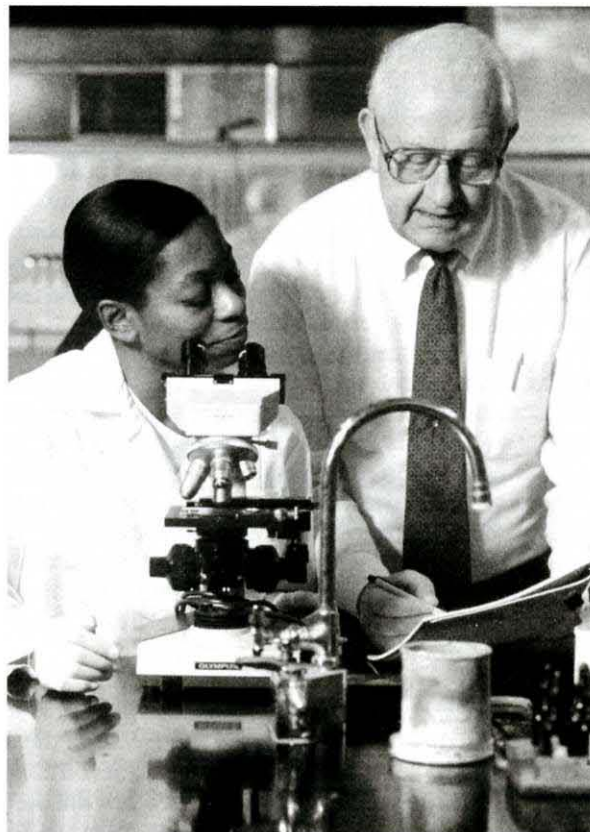


PHOTO BY SHERYL HAGAN-BOOTH

What is really different about the latest Progress Report, as President Ransdell points out in his cover letter at the beginning of the report, is that it takes us beyond the original five-year time frame of *Challenging the Spirit*, 1998-2003, to a new planning cycle, 2002-2006. Strategic planning, by its very nature, is dynamic, as it provides a disciplined process of change over time and in light of new and emerging circumstances, challenges, and opportunities. It seemed time, therefore, to update our plan — to take stock of and to celebrate what we have achieved and to set some new undertakings and directions.

The new Progress Report, then, unveils new or revised performance indicators, those targets we have set for ourselves as an institution to gauge our progress on each of the five strategic goals within the period 2002-2006. In some ways, the performance indicators constitute the institution's "to do" list. They are constant, public reminders of what we hope to accomplish, and hold ourselves accountable for, that will move us toward the University's goals and vision. We will begin measuring our progress on these performance indicators immediately, and issue a report on our progress next year.

This year's report also gives us an opportunity to recognize (and be proud of) the performance indicators in the original plan that the institution has achieved. Of the original 58 performance indicators, we have achieved 23. Some of the achieved performance indicators will be "retired" because they have been completed, an example being 3b, "Implement a post-tenure review system." That one is done. Others, such as 1i, "Increase externally sponsored research grant and contract activities to \$18 million" has been reached, but a new, higher, recalibrated target has been set for this important continuing indicator.

Overall, the Progress Report documents some extraordinary progress in the first three years of the strategic plan. We have met and exceeded most of our enrollment targets of various types — on-campus, community college, extended campus, distance learning and others. In fact, Western has been the fastest growing university in the state during this period. Faculty have also been extraordinarily successful at attracting extramural research grant and training funds, and our development campaign is in full swing. Many of the campus's physical facilities are getting, or are in line for, some much-needed renovations, the new Media and Technology Hall is scheduled to be completed by November 2002, and new buildings have been constructed at Postsecondary Centers in Glasgow and Elizabethtown. Our Programs of Distinction are distinguishing themselves, the plan for a regular upgrading of computers for faculty and student labs is being implemented, and more students than ever are involved in volunteer service learning activities. In the report this year, we have included some outstanding examples of successes, to flesh out the dry data.

Clearly, we continue to struggle in some areas: graduation rates, professional development resources for faculty, staff development programs, attendance at revenue-producing athletic events, our *US News & World Report* ranking, and deferred maintenance needs are all areas in our plan that require attention in the future. Of course, no one expects all areas of the plan to progress in exactly the same order.

Western's strategic plan is not a panacea for all the challenges that the University faces; it is a tool that helps us think, collectively, about what we are about, where we want to go, and what decisions we can make to help us get there. *Challenging the Spirit*, 2002-2006 will help us navigate some fairly challenging times ahead. State budget resources will be lean; competing needs on campus are plentiful; the Council on Postsecondary Education is ever more demanding in its accountability programs, and ever more directive in its trust fund allocations; and the SACS reaccreditation process is just around the corner. On the other hand, we have some good momentum as an institution not content with the status quo, and we have an excellent cadre of faculty, staff, administrators, and those students who come year after year, semester after semester, seeking the transforming effects of higher education. We just have to keep plugging and keep planning so that they can expect — and we can deliver — the best.

Dr. Jim Flynn is the assistant to the Provost for Planning and a professor of English.



PHOTO BY SHERYL HAGAN-BOOTH

Submissions for entry in the Professional Activities page should be sent to Kimberly Parsley, kimberly.parsley@wku.edu. **The submission deadline for the May/June edition of Echo Magazine is Friday, March 15.** All submissions must be sent electronically. Please include name, department, title, current position, name of presented or published work and name of publication or conference. No acronyms or abbreviations please.

English

Dr. Ron Eckard presented "Project PLOW (People Learning Others' Ways) — A Model of Assimilation of Latino Workers into Rural Kentucky" at the annual conference of The MidAmerica International Agricultural Consortium in Lincoln, Neb., Nov. 8, 2001.

Economics and Marketing

Dr. Cathey Carey presented her paper (with Dr. Michelle Trawick), "Industrial Relations & Foreign Direct Investment: How Much Do Foreign Laws Impact U.S. Firm Location Decisions?" at the 71st annual conference of the Southern Economic Association meetings held in Tampa, Fla., Nov. 17-19. Dr. Carey also served as a discussant for papers dealing with international development issues.

Dr. Douglas Fugate and Dr. Robert Jefferson published an article entitled "Preparing for Globalization: Do We Need Structural Change for our Academic Programs?" in *The Journal of Education for Business*.

Dr. Douglas Fugate presented a paper entitled "Preparing International Business Managers: How Do American Students Compare to Chinese Students in their Worldview?" at the Atlantic Marketing Association Conference. His paper was published in the conference's proceedings.

Dr. Douglas Fugate and Dr. Linda Parry, Management, recently presented a paper entitled "Starving Student Productions: Creating and Operating a New Business Venture: Lessons Learned," at the Society for Marketing Advances conference in New Orleans. Their paper was published in the conference's proceedings.

Dr. Jerry Gotlieb presented a paper entitled "The Dramatism Approach for Understanding Service Quality when the Service is a Skilled Performance Service," to the Academy of Business Disciplines. Dr. Gotlieb's paper will be published in their 2001 proceedings.

Dr. Craig Martin received an acceptance from the *Journal of Marketing Theory and Practice* for his article entitled "The Effect of Role Model Influence on Adolescents' Materialism and Marketplace Knowledge."

Dr. Craig Martin's conference paper, "The Effect of Entertainers' Role Model Influence on Generation Y's Purchase Intentions and Behaviors: A Look at Caucasians and African Americans," was accepted for presentation at the 2002 American Society of Business and Behavioral Sciences Ninth Annual Conference.

Dr. Craig Martin's conference paper, "Racial Diversity in Professional Selling: A Conceptual

Investigation of the Differences in the Perceptions of African-American and Caucasian Salespeople," was accepted for publication at the 2002 National Conference in Sales Management.

Dr. Ron Milliman's paper, "Designing Web Sites for Maximum Market Penetration," was accepted for presentation at the Design Management Institute Conference to be held in Boston this spring. The paper will also be published in the DMI Conference Proceedings.

Dr. Ron Milliman's article, "Web Site Inaccessibility = Less Effective Communications = Poor Market Penetration," was accepted for publication in the *Journal of Mediated Communications*.

Dr. Ron Milliman's paper, "An Examination of the Issue of Non-compliance to Web Accessibility Guidelines: Making the Internet More Accessible to All," was accepted by the 2002 American Marketing Association Marketing and Public Policy Conference, New Directions for Public Policy, in Atlanta, Ga.

Dr. Robert Pulsinelli served as a discussant for papers dealing with forensic economics at the 71st annual conference of the Southern Economic Association meetings held in Tampa, Fla., Nov. 17-19.

Dr. Lou Turley, Beverly Brockman and Gary Benton presented a paper to the Society of Marketing Advances in New Orleans entitled "Retail Site Selection in a Mall Context." Their paper was published in the Society of Marketing Advances' proceedings.

Journalism and Broadcasting

Dr. Augustine Ihator published an article entitled "Communication Style in the Information Age" in *Corporate Communications: An International Journal*, Volume 6, Number 4, 2001, pp. 199-204.

Minority Teacher Recruitment Center

Ms. Leslie Godo-Solo, Ms. Alice Mikovch, Teacher Services, Ms. Sherry Reid, Division of Academic Support, and Ms. Eugenia Scott, Division of Liberal Arts and Sciences, received a grant of \$10,330 from the Council on Postsecondary Education for Enhancing Teacher Preparation: A Collaborative Effort between WKU's School of Teacher Education and the Bowling Green Community College. The three-day seminar will introduce community college students to teaching and help prepare them for admittance into the College of Education.

Ms. Leslie Godo-Solo, Dr. Barbara Kacer, Middle Grades and Secondary Education, and Ms. Elizabeth Cooksey, Middle Grades and Secondary Education, presented "Responding to the Achievement Gap: The Four-Pronged TERM Approach to Training, Enrichment, Recruiting and Mentoring,"

"Developing Lesson Plans that Address Issues of Ethics" and "Exposing Minority Middle Graders to Teacher Education: A Case for Exploratory Workshops-The Minority Educator Early Identification Program at WKU" at the National Association of Multicultural Education (NAME) in Las Vegas, Nev., on Nov. 7-11, 2001. The Four Pronged Approach was a Founder's Roundtable Session, a prestigious honor of the organization.

The Minority Teacher Recruitment Center received a grant from the Kentucky Department of Education (2001-02 academic year) for \$190,589 to support minority teacher scholarships. Approximately 40 students have received the scholarship this year.

Modern Languages and Intercultural Studies

Dr. Darlene Applegate, Anthropology, completed eight archeological surveys during the fall 2001 semester. The surveys required reports of up to 30 pages each.

Dr. Tim Evans, Folk Studies, has been awarded a research fellowship and residency at the John Nicholas Brown Center for the Study of American Civilization at Brown University. Dr. Evans will spend two months at the Center in summer 2002, with the assistance of a WKU Faculty Fellowship, researching H.P. Lovecraft. In April 2001, Dr. Evans presented a paper entitled "Tradition and Illusion: H. P. Lovecraft, Vernacular Architecture and the Ideology of Preservation" at the annual conference of the Vernacular Architecture Forum, held in Newport, R.I.

Dr. Laura McGee, German, published an article entitled "Building Community and Posting Projects: Creating 'Student Pages' in Web-Based and Web-Enhanced Courses" in the Nov./Dec. 2001 issue of *Foreign Language Annals* (34:6), 534-549, the journal of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages.

Dr. Linda S. Pickle, German and Modern Languages and Intercultural Studies Department, published two articles. Her study of "Written and Spoken Chinese: Expression of Culture and Heritage," appeared in *An Introduction to Chinese Culture through the Family* (SUNY Press, 2001). "The Frontier Within and Without: Gender and the Memoirs of Rural German-Speaking Immigrants" was published in *Moving Stories: Migration and the American West 1850-2000* (Nevada Humanities Committee, 2001).

Dr. Melissa Stewart, Spanish, co-directed the Twelfth International Conference of the Asociación de Literatura Femenina Hispánica, held at the University of Kentucky, Sept. 13-15, 2001.

Dr. Michael Ann Williams, Folk Studies, has published "Vernacular Architecture and the Park Removals: Traditionalization as Justification and Resistance," in *Traditional Dwellings and Settlements Review* XIII, no. 1 (fall 2001): 33-42.



PHOTO BY BOB SKIPPER

Lowell Guthrie speaks to the crowd during the Dec. 14 unveiling of the four bells that will be placed in the clock/bell tower in the Guthrie Plaza at the Media and Technology Hall courtyard. The clock/bell tower and courtyard were made possible thanks to a leadership gift from Lowell and Carolyn Guthrie and Trace Die Cast.

Guthrie Gift to Resonate for Years to Come

The Guthrie family children take a closer look at one of the four bells. Inscriptions on the bells dedicate them to the spirit of Western, its alumni, faculty and staff, and they recognize Guthrie family members and the Trace Die Cast board of directors. Each bell also is inscribed with "Guthrie Carillon — Western Kentucky University 2002."



PHOTO BY BOB SKIPPER



PHOTO BY ED WEST

Lowell Guthrie and President Gary Ransdell admire one of the large bell molds after its casting in France. The bell that was cast from this exact mold will be part of the clock tower.



PHOTO BY ED WEST

Vast amounts of time, heat and energy went into casting the bells at the Paccard Bell Foundry in Lac D-Annecy, France.



PHOTO BY SIGURDUR O.L. BRACASON

The Guthrie Plaza continues to make its progression from a construction site to a courtyard, which includes the clock/bell tower.

DEVOTION TO

Western Kentucky University is experiencing a time of unprecedented growth and success. WKU staff members have played a crucial role in that success through their devotion to students and the talent and skill with which they execute their duties. The Echo staff extends its appreciation and congratulations to all staff members for their efforts in helping Western move ever closer to its goal of being the best comprehensive university in the state and among the best in the country.

We have chosen to recognize some of the employees who have served Western far longer than was required or expected of them. The individuals featured here retired from Western, but returned to continue in service to the University. These two people are in no way the only individuals with such distinctive records of service. Throughout the months ahead, I hope to continue finding and recognizing those WKU employees who truly embody the spirit of Western. If you know of a Western employee whose record of service is deserving of recognition, please notify me: kimberly.parsley@wku.edu.

Theresa Gerard

Theresa Whitmer Gerard began her career at Western in 1970 as a hostess, a position which she still holds in the Garrett Conference Center, where she

answers calls and questions, assists students, and schedules presentations and other events in the auditorium named for her. She is also the building coordinator for the Faculty House, as well as Garrett Conference Center. She said the work still interests her and that is why she stays, despite having retired in 1989.

Though Gerard's career at Western didn't begin until 1970, she has been an active part of the small but growing campus since she was 2 years old and her father attended classes here. Her fa-

Gerard went to teach in Cloverport, Ky., not in biology, but lower grades because, "At that time, when you taught biology you coached and they didn't want a woman coach," she said.

She did, however, get to teach physiology here at Western for a time, filling in for her father once when he was ill.

"I taught physiology and hygiene sanitation," she said. "I'd had those subjects under Daddy, and I had to make A's out of them or it would have been terrible, so I did make A's out of them. I took his notes with me to teach."

Gerard's opportunity to teach biology finally came at a school in Louisville,



PHOTO BY BOB SKIPPER

In January 1995, the Board of Regents voted to rename Garrett Auditorium The Theresa W. Gerard Auditorium. Gerard is pictured here with former President Thomas Meredith (left) and Regent Earl Fischer.

ther, J.R. Whitmer, would go on to teach at Western and serve the University for over 25 years. He led the effort to erect a statue of Dr. Henry Hardin Cherry; an effort that consisted of raising the funds, securing the services of the noted sculptor Lorado Taft, and most importantly, convincing Dr. Cherry to consent to the idea.

"Mother was a faculty wife, so I was just raised up here," Gerard said. "Then I went to school here. I never did feel like I went to college because I went here, and at that time I lived across the street on Normal Drive."

After earning her degree in biology,

where she was not expected to coach, but instead was given the even less befitting assignment of teaching auto mechanics. "I had to teach auto mechanics and I didn't even have a book, so I came to Western and got a library book," she said.

After marrying Paul E. Gerard, she worked within the home caring for her two sons, except for a short time during World War II when she (like many women of that time) worked outside the home. Not until her sons were nearing



Theresa Gerard stands with her manager, Preston Hayes; and workers at General Electric. Gerard was GE's personnel interviewer from 1943 to 1946. Due to WWII, a majority of the workers were female.

THE SPIRIT

By Kimberly Shain Parsley

the completion of their college educations did she begin to work at Western.

Gerard said she is impressed with the tremendous growth she's seen on the campus, but misses the days when Western was small and everyone knew everyone else. She recalled her wedding, to which her father had invited the entire campus, many of whom did attend.

Gerard said she hopes the University will work hard to preserve such landmark treasures as Van Meter Hall, where she attended chapel, more from a fear of a reprimand from Dr. Cherry than reverence or duty, and Snell Hall, where, on the second floor, she learned to love Shakespeare from a professor she called Daddy Clagett.

"He was such a nice man," she said. "I don't know what his first name was. We just called him Daddy Clagett."

Daddy Clagett was John H. Clagett. In *Western Kentucky University*, author Lowell Harrison wrote, "John H. Clagett was a gentle man, courteous, enthusiastic, inspiring. ... His class in Shakespeare became one of the most famous courses on the campus, in part because as the years passed he became an easy grader, in part because many who enrolled for easy grades became infected by his love for what he taught."

In addition, Gerard spoke fondly of Clagett's daughter, Marjorie Clagett, who taught French from the 1920s through the 1960s, and of her cherished memories of Dr. and Mrs. Cherry.

Western Kentucky University has long been a part of Theresa Gerard's life, and she a part of it. She said that two things keep her wanting to come to work every day, the Western spirit and the students.

"I wouldn't stay up here if I didn't like it," she said. "The students are still an awful good bunch. They're cute. I enjoy them."

Lee Robertson

Lee Robertson's career at Western began on April 5, 1960, in response to a request from then President Kelly Thompson. Robertson was serving as superintendent of Barren County Schools in Glasgow, Ky., at the time, and was also the president and an active member of the local chapter of the WKU Alumni Association. Thompson was hoping to develop and improve Western's Alumni Affairs office.

"I asked him (Thompson) what the job entailed," Robertson said, "and he said I'm not really sure. You come and find out. That was kind of the learning process we all had back then."

Robertson retired from WKU in 1985. He moved to Florida, and after three months there, his wife told him he was the most unhappy he'd been in all the years they'd been married. He attributes that unhappiness to an unfamiliarity with having nothing to do.



PHOTO BY MATT GRIMALDI

Lee traveled with (from left) Bob Preston, Ed Diddle Jr. and John Minton to Springfield, Mass., to the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame when Coach Diddle was inducted in 1972.

"My dad became disabled when the three children were small and we started out working when we were kids. We never knew anything but to work. I think that affected me," he said.

Again, Robertson got a call from Western requesting his help. This time, the request came from Jimmy Feix, then athletic director, and the position was that of golf coach.

"He knew that I'd played golf all my life. He asked me to do that for a year and I did it six," Robertson said.

After six years as golf coach, he served as interim director of the newly established Glasgow campus, and then helped out in athletics.

"It's all been fun," he said, "because I love the place."

His current position as special assistant to the vice president for Institutional Advancement allows him to assist the offices of Development and Alumni Relations.

(Continued on pg. 15)



PHOTO BY KENT BRYANT

Lee is shown with his granddaughters Carline, Bonnie and Melissa, son-in-law and daughter John and Melenda Bower, son Steve, and wife, Joyce.

New Faculty

Mathematics

Robert C. Bueker, Professor

Grant Funded Positions

Equal Opportunity/504/ ADA Compliance

Stephanie F. Lau, Coordinator II

Elementary Education

Staci H. Nash, Director

Library Special Collections

Kenna Beth Brophrey, Pt-Temp Clerical/Secretarial

Stephanie A. Elmore, Pt-Temp Clerical/Secretarial

Training and Technical Assistance Services – Child Care

Stephany Nelson, Pt-Temp Technician/Paraprof

Claudene F. Oliva, Coordinator III

Maria Scott, Teacher

Training and Technical Assistance Services – Head Start

Enriqueta Nelson, Teacher

Jennifer Pemberton, Coordinator,

Family Services

Sherry K. York, Pt-Regular Tech/Paraprof

New Staff

Admissions & Academic Services

Adrien D. Deloach, Coordinator III

Alumni Relations

Eric L. McWilliams, Pt-Temp Clerical/Secretarial

Building Services

James W. Elmore, Building Services Attendant

Robert N. Garrison, Building Services Attendant

Latashia Rena Gray, Building Services Attendant

Debbie Lynn Gross, Building Services Attendant

Freda G. Hazel, Building Services Attendant

Robin Sue Kennedy-Shulda, Building Services Attendant

Carri Jo Lee, Building Services Attendant

Ruth Ann Miller, Building Services Attendant

Allie Ware Moore, Building Services Attendant

Melony Jean Scott, Building Services Attendant

Jermaine Terrell Shirley, Building Services Attendant

Karen Renee Wingo, Building Services Attendant

Campus Services

Walter Franklin, Groundskeeper

Rob Matthew Shulda, Sr Groundskeeper

Controller

Lynne M. Hutcheson, Accounts Payable Associate

Correspondence Studies

Amy Elizabeth Smith, Office Associate

Downing University Centers

Emily Butler, Pt-Regular Prof Non-Faculty

Educational Television Services

David Mabrey, Pt-Regular Tech/Paraprof

English

Carmen Newell, Pt-Reg Clerical/Secretarial

Equal Opportunity/504/ADA Compliance

Amanda Curtis, Office Coordinator

Sam Buell Starks, Coordinator II

Extended Campus – Owensboro

Susan B. Rice, Pt-Reg Clerical/Secretarial

Amy Westerfield, Pt-Reg Service/Maint (other)

Facilities Fiscal Services

Raymond Doyle Womack, Pt-Reg Service/Maint (other)

Human Resources

Sheila F. Dunn, Pt-Reg Clerical/Secretarial

International Programs

Yating Chang, Study Abroad Advisor

Silvina V. Fernandez, Office Associate

Intramural & Recreational Sports

Laura L. Hall, Exercise Coordinator

Charles Napier, Pt-Temp Technician/Paraprof

Michael Timothy Twigg, Facility Coordinator

Library Public Services

Roxanne Myers Spencer, Coord, Educ Resources Center

Library Special Collections

Lynne H. Ferguson, Pt-Temp Prof Non-Faculty

Maintenance Services

Sherman Adams, Supv, Preventative Maintenance

Nathan L. Brindley, Maintenance Technician

Nathan Levay Hale, Electrician

Herbert Hess, Electrician

Bobby Dale Parnell, Ft-Reg Technician/Paraprof

Christopher Radus, Maintenance Technician

John J. Styles, Ft-Reg Technician/Paraprof

Men's Basketball

Julie F. Fryia, Office Associate

Donald Jermaine Spann, Strength & Conditioning Coach

Minority Student Support Services

Heather M. Thomas, Pt-Temp Technician/Paraprof

Public Affairs

Stephen Barnett, Ft-Temp Prof Non-Faculty

Registrar's Office

Judith J. Gerhardt, Student Records Associate

Sponsored Programs

Tricia Lynn Callahan, Coord, Proposal Development

Duncan Faxon, Pt-Regular Prof Non-Faculty

Student Health Service

Betsy Jo M. Reed, Pt-Regular Tech/Paraprof

University Relations

Robert W. Edwards, Assistant Vice President

WKU Police Department

Craig M. Sutter, Police Officer

Staff Promotions

Alumni Relations

Donald L. Smith, Assistant Vice President

Controller

Julie L. Ahlers, Assistant Bursar, Billings & Rec

Development

John Paul Blair, Asst Vice Pres/Major Gifts & GFC

Gordon Ford College of Business

Tabatha J. Lear, Office Associate

Governmental Relations

Robbin Morrison Taylor, Director

Housing & Residence Life

Lisa Maria Cook, Office Coordinator

HVAC/Utilities Services

Clifton Ernie Johnson, Supervisor, HVAC

Maintenance Services

Chester McNulty, Elevator Mechanic

Ogden College of Science & Engineering

Casey L. Peden, Information Technology Consultant

Faculty Retirees

Biology

Martin Houston, Professor

Chemistry

Charles H. Henrickson, Professor

Consumer & Family Sciences

Joyce Rasdall, Professor

English

M. Wanella Huddleston, Associate Professor

Government

George Masannat, Professor

Management & Information Systems

Stephen D. House, Assistant Professor

Music

David Terrill Kelsey, Professor

Physical Education & Recreation

Charles Daniel, Professor

Psychology

Shula Mussnug, Associate Professor

School of Journalism & Broadcasting

James Wesolowski, Professor

Staff Retirees

Admissions & Academic Services

Sharon B. Dyrsen, Director

Controller

Gilda Marie Lee, Billings & Receivables Supervisor

Student Financial Assistance

Phyllis Jewell Bessette, Financial Aid Counselor

DEVOTION TO THE SPIRIT (Cont. from pg.13)

"You've heard in basketball about certain players being role players," he said, "and I think that's what my job is here because of my longevity in alumni affairs, I guess I know more alumni than any other Western alumnus."

"Lee never met a stranger and is widely admired among our alumni and friends of the University," said Tom Hiles, vice president for Institutional Advancement. "He serves a critical role on our staff by opening doors for the president and me with countless alumni around the country. We would not have had the success we have experienced in the *Investing in the Spirit* campaign without Lee Robertson."

Though Robertson has witnessed many changes at Western throughout his career, one thing that he said has not changed at Western is its students. He said they may dress and look a little different, and may be more knowledgeable about technological advances, but students will always be the same.

"I graduated from Western in 1950," he said, "and I expect you could get a 2001 graduate and set us down together and let us talk about our philosophy and what's important to us and it wouldn't be much different. We'd all like to be gainfully employed, making a difference in the world, providing adequately for our families and our-

selves, enjoying the necessities of life and being able to afford some of the luxuries."

Robertson said he thinks Western is heading in the right direction, and hopes it continues to stay on course. He said that in order to be successful, Western must continue to be alert to what is needed from public higher education and how we can educate people for the roles they will play in a vastly changing world.

"I want to be able to brag on my University because it is important to me," he said.

The only thing he brags about more than Western is his family.

"My wife, Joyce, (fondly known as Mama Joyce to most) is also a Western graduate. Sixteen years after she graduated from high school she graduated from college," he said. "The reason she didn't do it in four years was my fault. We got married and had kids and were living in different places."

Robertson's pride in his entire family, two children and three grandchildren, who he calls the three most beautiful granddaughters in the world, is evident every time he speaks of them.

"I consider him a second father," Hiles said. "More than anyone I know, Lee is extremely wealthy in regard to his friendships, his commitment to his family, community and, most importantly, to Western Kentucky University."



Russell Brown, Worth Mabry and Lee Robertson pose for a photo at Fort Campbell during basic training. Lee was in the 44th battalion when the photo was taken in October 1942.

New Faces in International Programs

Yating Chang

Yating Chang is the new study abroad advisor in International Programs. She coordinates and promotes most of the WKU study abroad programs, and helps both students and faculty members gain international experience.

Chang was born in Taipei, Taiwan. She studied in Taiwan for 10 years before her family migrated to Singapore. Living in a multi-racial society, Chang said she was taught to respect and appreciate the similarities and differences between various ethnic groups and their cultures.

In September 1996, Chang arrived at the University of Oregon for higher education, majoring in psychology and journalism. She enjoyed her American lifestyle and decided it was time to explore another continent in this world — Europe. As a college sophomore, Chang studied abroad in Vienna, Austria for three months. She regarded this study abroad as an experience that changed her life by shaping her goals for the future.

After Chang returned to America, she recognized the importance of international perspectives to her future career and lifestyle. She integrated her interest in cultures into her graduate studies, completing her master's degree in cross-cultural psychology in June 2001. She wishes to share her experience and hopes that others will benefit by gaining international experience for themselves.

Silvina Fernandez

Silvina Fernandez began working as an office associate in International Programs in December. In addition to receptionist and secretarial duties, she helps new international students upon their arrival at Western, processes new applications of international students for the graduate, undergraduate, and ESL programs, and assists the international student and scholar advisor and the coordinator for international student and scholar services.

Fernandez was born in Lomas de Zamora, Province of Buenos Aires, Republic of Argentina. She studied tourism management in Argentina before coming to the U.S. with her family in August 1991. She lived in Miami, Fla., until July 2001.

While in Miami, she attended Florida International University, and worked at the law offices of Cuevas & Rubin, P.A. as personnel manager and legal assistant to the president, which allowed her to integrate her interest in helping people into her daily job. Since her main work was in the area of immigration, she helped South American immigrants who were looking for a better lifestyle come to the U.S. to start a new life. This also gave her the opportunity to relate to many people from different ethnic groups and cultures. This experience makes her uniquely qualified to work in International Programs.

Wendell Sparks

Wendell Sparks joined Western Kentucky University's Office of International Programs in August as coordinator of inter-



Robin Borczon, assistant director, Wendell Sparks, coordinator of international student and scholar services, and Silvina Fernandez, office associate

national student and scholar services.

Prior to accepting the position at Western, Sparks served as coordinator of international student and scholar services at the University of Central Florida, also serving as interim director of that program.

Sparks has a master's degree in international management from the Thunderbird Graduate School of International Management in Arizona and a second master's degree in intercultural management from the School for International Training in

Brattleboro, Vt.

Sparks has traveled extensively, both in the U.S. and abroad. He spent six months in Panama as an exchange student. Soon after leaving Panama he became a Volunteer In Service to America and was assigned to Hawaii. Following his tour of duty, he worked for three years as a social worker with the Hawaiian Family Court. His work in the area of student and cultural exchange has taken him to Los Angeles, Spain, Mexico and the Dominican Republic.

Sparks, an eastern Kentucky native, said he is glad to have the opportunity to return to Kentucky and be closer to his family and his roots.

Robin Borczon

Robin Borczon is the new assistant director in International Programs. Borczon's grandparents were immigrants to the U.S. Romanian was her mother's first language; Polish was her father's. Borczon was always surrounded by other languages and cultural traditions. Her interest in sociolinguistics began in childhood.

Borczon graduated from Indiana University with a bachelor's degree in anthropology and linguistics. After graduation, she assisted the Filipino Ministry of Agriculture in the northern mountains of the Philippines as a Peace Corps volunteer. Borczon became fluent in Ilocano — the local language. She still lists on her resume, under other skills, "I can till a rice paddy with a water buffalo and plow."

After returning to the U.S., Borczon earned a master's degree in intercultural communication at the University of Pennsylvania in 1983. Her experience includes administering U.S. government grants for migrant and seasonal farm worker programs and employment and training programs for military veterans, a foreign student advisor and an international admissions officer.

In 1996, Borczon entered the legal profession as an immigration paralegal. Her favorite cases involved students and their transitions to working visas. Borczon often found herself counseling them in matters of corporate cultural adjustment, life in Indianapolis, and family immigration issues in the course of preparing U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service petitions for them. It is this continued enjoyment of working with students that has brought her back again to university work.

PHOTO BY MARIL LOUFFI

PLOWing the Row to Success

By Tommy Newton

Project PLOW broke new ground in language skills, sowed the seeds of cultural understanding, cultivated a spirit of community and harvested a bumper crop of success.

Western Kentucky University launched Project PLOW (People Learning Others' Ways) four years ago to help farmers and migrant farm workers learn more about each others' language and culture. After a pilot project in Daviess County in 1998 and 1999, PLOW expanded to Barren, Breckinridge, Clinton, Hardin and Russell counties.

The program, funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, began with modest goals but ended its funding cycle with greater success than organizers ever imagined, according to Dr. David Coffey and Dr. Ron Eckard.

"We learned how strapped the rural areas are for resources and assistance in dealing with the Latino population," said Dr. Coffey, an agriculture professor. PLOW served about 700 community leaders/farm family members and about 500 migrant workers, he said.

Dr. Ron Eckard, who teaches English as a Second Language courses at WKU said that Western developed Project PLOW around the idea that farmers and workers needed occupational language training that wasn't based on literature, verb conjugations or the history of language development. But organizers quickly learned

to be safe and to get the job done."

Eckard said project organizers had to shadow farmers and workers to determine the phrases and vocabulary needed. "We had to be very job specific."

For the pilot project, Ginger Robinson, a Spanish teacher at

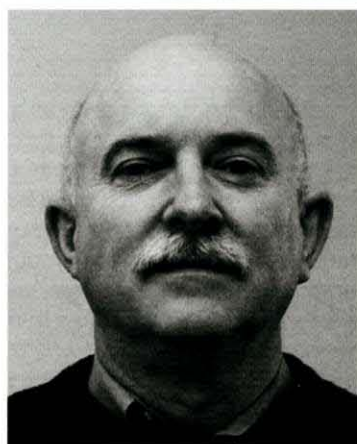
Apollo High School, taught Spanish language and Mexican culture to the American farm families while Eckard taught English language and American culture to the Hispanic farm workers.

As the program progressed, Eckard and Coffey realized that both groups enjoyed and benefited from the cultural content.

"The Americans realized they had more in common cul-

turally with Mexican workers than they had thought," Eckard said, adding that a group from Daviess County has even traveled to Mexico to visit the workers and their families.

Even though participants might not have grown proficient in a new language, "the long-lasting effect is gaining greater respect for another



Dr. David Coffey, agriculture professor and Dr. Ron Eckard, English professor

that no educational materials were available to teach English to tobacco workers.

"We had to literally go into the fields and shadow the farmers and the workers," Eckard said. "What language did they use? What did they need? We had to determine what workers needed to learn and compre-



PHOTO BY SHAWN LOFFIN

person's culture through greater understanding," Eckard said.

He said that PLOW "is a model that has worked very well with the agriculture community."

"We believe the model can be replicated with other businesses such as law enforcement, banking and health care," he added.

Coffey and Eckard have presented reports at several meetings and have responded to requests from universities, businesses and other groups for information about the program. Recently, for example, Dr. Eckard attended a conference in Nebraska where education and agriculture leaders from the Midwest expressed their interest in establishing similar programs to meet the needs of the growing Hispanic population.

PLOW "truly is a unique program," Eckard said. "A number of programs work with Hispanics but there is no other program that does the two-way teaching and orientation. The idea has really caught on."

Coffey and Eckard agreed that publicity about the project in Kentucky, across the U.S. and even in Latin America has helped enhance Western's name and reputation.

"I think Western is seen as a leader in addressing rural social issues," Coffey said.

"Just getting Western's name out there as being involved in the community and being sensitive to changes in the community and the needs in the community is important," Eckard said. "Even though it may go beyond our original educational mission, we have to determine the needs and design programs to meet those needs in ways we haven't done before."

Eckard said that on the first night of classes in Daviess County four years ago, Project PLOW's potential became clear. "I learned that some simple instruction in cross cultural communication can make a major difference in how people relate to each other."

He said that on that night, farm families and workers entered the classroom separately with no interaction, but by the end of the first session, they were talking with each other and working together. "It truly was People Learning Others' Ways," he said. "That, if nothing else, made it worthwhile."

The 15th Annual Robert Penn Warren Symposium will be held at Western Kentucky University on April 21 at 2 p.m. in Garrett Conference Center 103. The Symposium is an annual event that attracts Warren scholars from across the nation. Renowned speakers highlight the event, which is open to the public.

The Center for Robert Penn Warren Studies, established at Western Kentucky University in 1986, honors Kentucky's native son for his worldwide literary achievements and his dedication to education.

According to Professor Mary Ellen Miller, coordinator of the Warren Center, this year's Symposium will feature Professor William Bedford Clark, noted Warren scholar and member of the faculty at Texas A & M. Professor Clark is a member of the Center's Advisory Group. His lecture will be followed by a reception in Cherry Hall and by a tour of the Kentucky Library, which houses the personal library of Warren (a gift from Mrs. Warren) and the collections of Warren's biographer, Professor Joseph Blotner, and his bibliographer, Professor James A. Grimshaw Jr. Both are members of the Warren Advisory Group.

The Advisory Group presents an annual award to that work which best exemplifies the critical principles and ideals of Warren and his collaborator, Professor Cleanth Brooks. Last year's award went to Sir Frank Kermode for his distinguished work on Shakespeare. The new recipient of the Warren/Brooks Award will be Dr. Paul V. Murphy, author of *The Rebuke of History: The Southern Agrarians and American Conservative Thought*. Dr. Murphy is an assistant professor of history at Grand Valley State University in Allendale, Mich.

Robert Penn Warren was born in Guthrie, Todd County, Ky. He graduated from Vanderbilt in 1925, received his master's degree from the University of California in 1927 and, in October 1928, he entered the New College at Oxford as a Rhodes Scholar, receiving his B.Litt. in spring 1930.

Robert Penn Warren

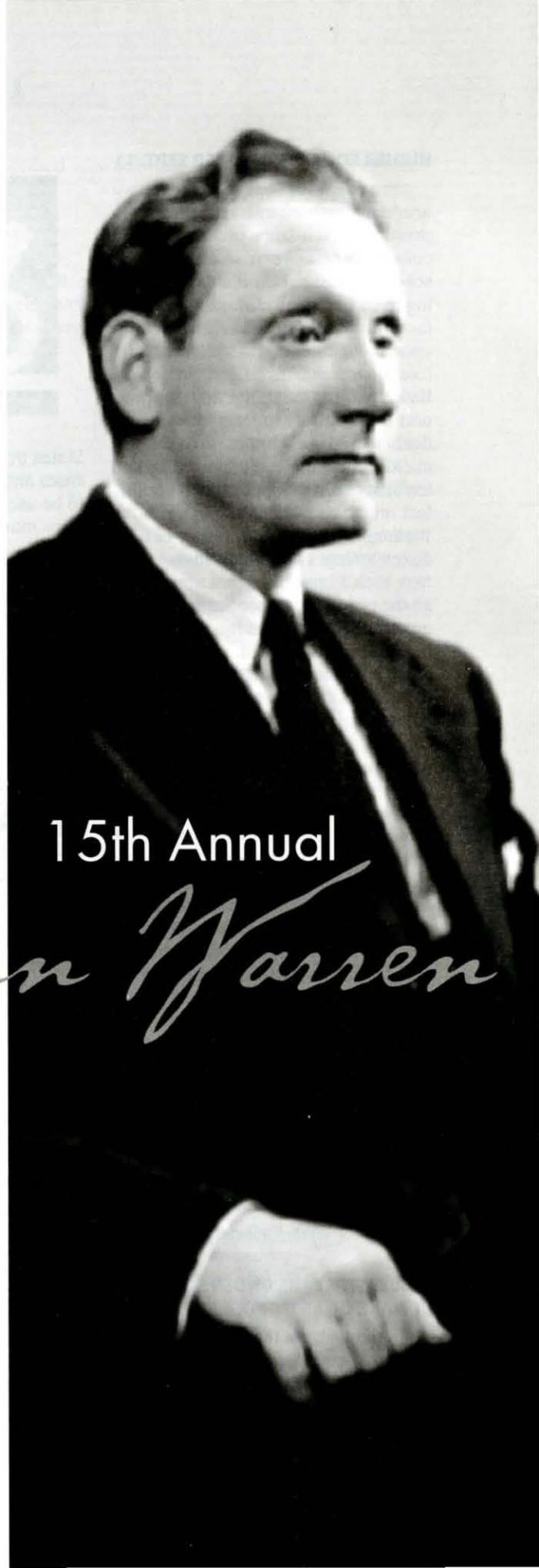
Symposium

Warren was a poet, novelist, critic and teacher. He published 16 volumes of poetry, two of which received a Pulitzer Prize. He published 10 novels and received a Pulitzer Prize in fiction for his book *All the King's Men*. Warren was the first, and so far, only author to receive a Pulitzer Prize in both poetry and fiction.

Warren taught at five colleges and universities. While at LSU, he, along with Cleanth Brooks and Charles W. Pipkin, founded and edited *The Southern Review*.

On Feb. 26, 1986, Warren was the first Poet Laureate appointed by the Library of Congress to promote the reading and studying of poetry.

For additional information on the Symposium and for information on the fundraising brunch at 12:30 p.m. on April 21, contact Mary Ellen Miller, English Department, at (270) 745-5721 or e-mail mary.miller@wku.edu.



HIGHER EDUCATION AFTER SEPT. 11

The events of Sept. 11 affected academia on both intellectual and practical levels. Some prospective college students yearn to attend schools closer to home, to avoid having to fly or to stay closer to their families. Others steadfastly insist upon living their lives as planned before the attacks. Institutions in both New York and Washington, D.C., report that contrary to fears that students would not want to go to school in cities most directly impacted by the terrorists attacks, applications are in fact on the rise, according to the *Washington Post*. And a survey of two dozen colleges and universities by the *New York Times* found that at nearly all the pool of early applications had grown, with increases ranging from one percent at Harvard, which had 6,128 applications, to 35 percent at the University of Chicago.

On campus, institutions report a surge in interest in courses dealing with the Middle East, including language, history and religion classes. And, in contrast to college campuses serving as a hotbed of anti-war protest during the Vietnam Era, more students are finding that opposing American efforts in Afghanistan is an unpopular stance. Harvard University President Lawrence Summers has urged that the academic world get more in line with mainstream Americans and support citizens in uniform.

Sources:

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<http://www.nytimes.com/2001/12/09/education/09APPL.html>

Washington Post, 12/3/01

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A46830-2001Dec2.html>

Boston Globe, 11/25/01

http://www.boston.com/dailyglobe2/329/metro/Harvard_head_urges_a_deeper_patriotism+.shtml

UNIVERSITY LABS UNDER SCRUTINY IN WAKE OF ANTHRAX ATTACKS

In the wake of the recent bioterrorism, federal officials have undertaken an inspection program of university facilities across the United



States that conduct research on viruses and bacteria with the potential to be used in bioterror. The inspections mark a new and extensive campaign by the federal government to eliminate the risk of future bioterror attacks. There are more than 200 universities registered with the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to perform research on potentially dangerous viruses and bacteria.

The anthrax attacks, in particular, have suddenly brought a new level of oversight and scrutiny to an area that has largely operated in anonymity. Indeed, what has emerged is a portrait of a research structure about which relatively little is known — and seemingly open to easy misuse. Officials know, for instance, that there are hundreds of labs with anthrax cultures at universities, private facilities and public-health agencies. But they don't know the exact number because they don't keep an inventory.

Sources:

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<http://fyi.cnn.com/2001/US/12/12/inv.university.biochem/index.html>

Christian Science Monitor, 12/10/01

<http://www.csmonitor.com/2001/1210/p1s3-ussc.html>

BIG GIFTS DOWN BY 60 PERCENT

In its annual listing of the top 10 charitable gifts by individual donors, the *Chronicle of Philanthropy* reported that this type of giving was down 60 percent in 2001. Though weighing in at a hefty \$4.6 billion, large individual gifts suffered from the faltering economy, the implosion of the high-

tech bubble, and the aftermath of the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11.

There may be a silver lining for higher education, however. In an interview with National Public Radio, Council for Advancement and Support of Education Vice President of Communications John Lippincott noted that "Major gifts are still being made—and made in record amounts." He pointed out that more than half of the top 10 gifts were made to colleges and universities, and that one of these donations was a record-breaker: a gift of \$600 million to the California Institute of Technology from Gordon Moore, chairman emeritus of the Intel Corporation. So despite the recession, Lippincott said that colleges and universities are "cautiously optimistic" about the fund-raising future.

Sources:

Chronicle of Philanthropy

(subscription required), 1/10/02

<http://philanthropy.com/premium/articles/v14/i06/06003303.htm>

NPR: Morning Edition, 1/3/02

<http://www.npr.org/ramfiles/me/20020103.me.05.ram>

GETTING THE WORK — AND CATCHING SOME FLACK

The method of early-decision admissions at colleges and universities has come under fire from an array of critics. On Dec. 12, the Yale President Richard Levin said of the system, "If we all got rid of it, it would be a good thing.... It pushes the pressure of thinking about college back into the junior year of high school, and the only one who benefits is the admissions officers." Levin challenged other top liberal arts colleges to join with Yale in discussing suspending or ending all early-decision admissions. None, so far, have agreed to do so.

But it isn't just scholastic pressure that makes early decision problematic. According to a study conducted by Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government, colleges and universities generally accept a higher percentage of early applicants than regular applicants. And since these stu-

dents tend to come from white, well-to-do backgrounds, this may decrease the diversity of students accepted into college. Most students applying for financial aid do not seek early decision, because doing so makes them unable to compare financial aid packages.

Levin says he plans to broach the subject of ending early-decision admissions with Yale's admissions committee.

Sources:

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http://www.boston.com/dailyglobe2/358/nation/Early_admissions_seen_as_tilted_to_the_affluent+.shtml

New York Times, 12/13/01

<http://www.nytimes.com/2001/12/13/education/13YALE.html>

GENDER GAP IN LEARNING

In a recent study, three researchers from the Universities of Florida, Iowa and Missouri found that women learn one-third less than men during college. The study, published in the Sept./Oct. 2001 issue of the *Journal of Higher Education*, used test results from the College Basic Academic Subjects Examination (CBASE), which tests students in English, math, science and social studies. The study analyzed the test results of 19,000 students at 56 four-year colleges and universities in 13 states over a five-year period.

"The study looked primarily at the effect of college on learning," says Lamont Flowers, a University of Florida education professor who co-authored the report. "Taken as a whole, it was found that women on average tended to gain 67 percent of what men gained from freshman to senior year."

Ernest Pascarella, another co-author and a professor of education at the University of Iowa takes a cautious stance. "The study is not saying that men are somehow smarter than women," he says. "We do know that lots of times, our [American higher education] pedagogy is male oriented, and that may be what's happening here." Critics have suggested

that CBASE may be a gender-biased exam and that researchers should take into account the students' majors, among other unexamined factors. Pascarella admits a certain ambivalence about the results: "I'm still a tad skeptical until someone else has similar results or we do another study and find the same thing," he says.

Sources:

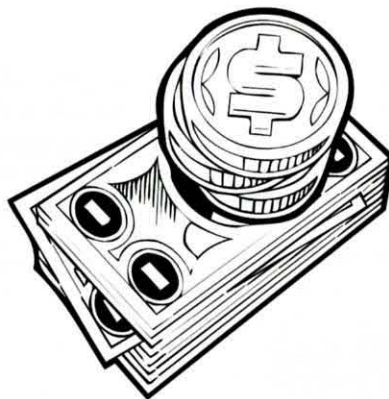
Christian Science Monitor, 11/27/01

<http://www.csmonitor.com/2001/1127/p14s1-lehl.html>

University of Florida

<http://www.napa.ufl.edu/2001news/collegegender.htm>

For a copy of the full report, "How Much Do Students Learn in College? Cross-Sectional Estimates Using the College Base," order the September/October 2001 issue of the *Journal of Higher Education* (Volume 72, Number 5) at: www.ohiostatepress.org/journals/jhemain.htm



CAN EVERYONE AFFORD COLLEGE?

Low-income students have significantly fewer options in what college or university they attend, and usually have to borrow money to afford their education, according to a new report from the Lumina Foundation, a private, independent organization in Indianapolis. The report, *Unequal Opportunity: Disparities in College Access Among the 50 States*, also says these students' ability to access and afford college varies greatly from state to state.

Lumina studied more than 2,800 colleges and universities across the country, examining whether they admitted "college-qualified students

with test scores and grades that place them in the 25th to 75th percentiles of college-bound high school graduates from their state," and "the extent to which federal, state, and institutional aid help meet financial need for specific types of students"—those from a lower-income background. The study found these students need loans even to attend some two-year community colleges in one-third of all states, and that only five states (Alaska, Arkansas, Hawaii, Kentucky and Wyoming) offer four-year public colleges that are affordable to all students.

The higher education community quickly took issue with Lumina's study, criticizing the foundation's methodology and deploring its use of potentially polarizing language such as "inaccessible" and "unaffordable."

"The use of such black-and-white terms is a needless distraction from the real issues, and has the potential to confuse and even discourage students and parents as they make decisions about colleges and universities," said an advisory released by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities.

Jerry Davis, Lumina's vice president for research, seemed to acknowledge the inevitable controversy when he delivered the report: "We hope this report inspires lively dialogue among policy-makers and leaders in higher education, business, and philanthropy about how we must work together to keep higher education accessible to all Americans," he said.

Sources:

Associated Press, 1/7/02

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Lumina Foundation News Release, 1/7/02

<http://www.luminafoundation.org/monographs/release.shtml>

Lumina Foundation Full Report, 1/7/02

<http://www.luminafoundation.org/monographs/states/pdfs/Web.pdf>

American Association of State Colleges and Universities, 1/7/02

http://www.aascu.org/policy/financial_aid/02/010702.htm#top

Celebrate @your library

Celebrate National Library Week @ Your Library

WKU Libraries and The Kentucky Museum invite you to participate in events and activities planned in observance of National Library Week, April 14-20.

According to National Library Week Planning Committee Chair Sean Kinder, many of the traditional events will be repeated, with some additional activities being added this year to keep the celebration fresh.

Recurring events include a special kick-off to launch the week-long celebration; an open house at the Glasgow Campus Library; storytelling at the campus daycare center; the Scholastic Book's Book Fair, held at the Educational Resource Center in Tate Page Hall; the Western Authors Reception; and the Southern Kentucky Festival of Books.

The event that has been in existence the longest — the Western Authors Reception — will be held Thursday, April 18, from 2-4 p.m., in the Kentucky Building, Galleries K & L. During this event, the Faculty Library Award will be presented to a WKU faculty member "who has contributed consistently and notably to WKU Libraries use and development."

Fliers and invitations with more specifics will be distributed in early April. In the meantime, if you would like more information, contact Sean Kinder (270) 745-6339 or sean.kinder@wku.edu.

Or you may connect @ WKU Libraries' National Library Week Web site: www.wku.edu/Library/nlw.

Earlene Chelf is the marketing/special events coordinator for University Libraries/Kentucky Museum.

Genealogical Program

Organized by the Kentucky Library and Museum, Irish genealogist Billy Kennedy will discuss "Scots-Irish Emigration to the U.S." and materials relating to them in America, 2:30 p.m., Sunday, March 10, at the Kentucky Building.

Free and open to the public. For more information, call (270) 745-5083 or e-mail nancy.baird@wku.edu.

Kentucky Live

A Series of Presentations About Southern Culture sponsored by Trace Die Cast

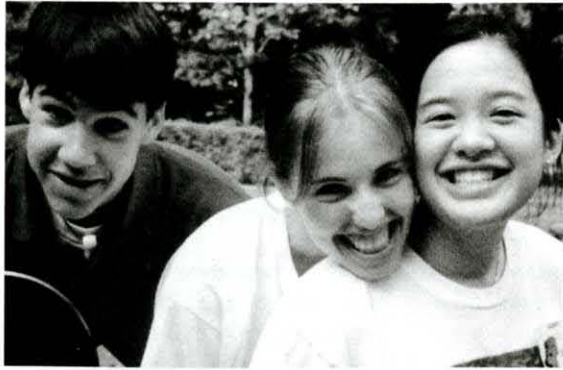
March 17 "Warren County Women"
by Carol Crowe-Carraco

April 11 "Duncan Hines: The Cake Man"
by Jonathan Jeffrey

Organized by University Libraries. Presentations will be held at 7 p.m. at Barnes & Noble. Free and open to the public. For more information or a complete schedule of the year's programs, call (270) 745-6168 or e-mail peggy.wright@wku.edu.



PHOTO BY SHERYL HAGAN-BOOTH



Berta Gift to Support Gifted Studies at WKU

By Carol Cummings

As the Center for Gifted Studies celebrates its 20th year of providing services for young people who are gifted and talented, friends of the Center are ensuring that these services continue. Vince and Kathleen Berta of Bowling Green recently donated \$100,000 to create the Berta Fund for Excellence.

"It is often said but easily forgotten that the future is our youth," Vince Berta said. "The Center for Gifted Studies provides the gifted youth the training, education and environment with which to maximize their talents."

Kathleen Berta agrees. "By establishing the Berta Fund for Excellence in Gifted Studies, we are doing our small part in investing in the future of our youth, Western Kentucky University and our community."

According to Dr. Julia Roberts, director of the Center, the Berta Fund for Excellence will support speakers for professional development for educators. "This will provide information and inspiration to these educators who must understand that strengths create needs," she said. "Through special seminars, these educators will acquire strategies to accommodate the needs and challenges of these special students."

Roberts also said the children themselves will benefit from this gift. "The fund will provide scholarships to allow students to attend the Center's life changing programs," she said. "Scholarships for special needs students will also provide these opportunities for students who might otherwise be overlooked. It is wonderful to have friends who share the vision and who are willing and able to support the Center in such an important way."

Tom Hiles, WKU's vice president for Institutional Advancement, expressed his appreciation for the Bertas' gift to the Commonwealth's premier Gifted Studies Program. "Not only will this gift positively impact the gifted students throughout the state, it will encourage other alumni and friends to support the program as well."

Alumni Association Spreads the Western Wisdom

By Carol Cummings

The WKU Alumni Association is offering a new program to bring WKU alumni and current students together. It is called the Western Wisdom Alumni Mentoring Program.

According to Alumni Association Executive Director Donald Smith, this program matches a WKU alumnus or alumna with a current student for the purpose of providing support, guidance and assistance as the student faces new challenges in choosing classes, looking for internships and deciding on a career.

"Becoming a mentor to an undergraduate will provide alumni the chance to once again be involved in Western Kentucky University and give them the opportunity to help a student develop the necessary skills to enter a career path," Smith said. "Providing guidance to a current student while keeping the 'Western Spirit' alive is what the Alumni Association is striving to achieve."

Julie Denton, a senior corporate and organizational communication major from Horse Cave, Ky., plans to pursue a career as an event planner. "The Western Wisdom Alumni Mentoring Program has provided a great benefit to me," she said. "I have been able to be in contact with a Western alumna who is a professional in my field and who is willing for me to pick her brain. Each mentor I talk with has given me a new insight concerning my chosen career path and has opened up many opportunities for me. I have learned what really goes on in a work day and the fun and not-so-fun aspects of this job."

Jennifer Mize Smith, president of Prime Time Events and a 1993 alumna, has enjoyed serving as an alumni mentor this year. "As a mentor, I share my thoughts and career experiences with my mentee, and she shares her enthusiasm for learning with me."

"It has been refreshing to see students who want to learn outside the classroom, network with community professionals, and seek guidance from other Western graduates," Smith continued. "As a student at WKU, I had several mentors and continue relationships with many of them even today. As an alumna, I enjoy passing along what I have learned and hope that I can be a positive influence for someone else."

For more information, contact the WKU Alumni Association at (270) 745-4395.

Carol Cummings is a senior development writer/researcher in Development and Alumni Relations.

Mobile Health Unit Services Expanded

An additional \$500,000 in federal funding will allow Western Kentucky University to expand its mobile health service to rural areas.

The Mobile Health and Wellness Unit began services in Edmonson County on Jan. 15, with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and remarks by U.S. Sen. Mitch McConnell.

McConnell (R-Ky.) secured the initial \$670,000 congressional appropriation for WKU's rural health initiative along with the \$500,000 that was part of \$5.1 million in federal appropriations for Western projects approved by Congress in December.

"I am proud to have worked with Western Kentucky University to make this project a reality," Sen. McConnell said. "The mobile health clinic will provide vital preventative health care services to the families of rural Kentucky. I applaud WKU for its continued commitment to improving the lives of Kentuckians."

The unit, which initially is serving the 10-county Barren River Area Development District, removes the barriers of health care accessibility, availability and affordability faced by many rural Kentuckians.

The Mobile Health and Wellness Unit provides medical and dental screenings for rural residents, enhances the accessibility of preventive health services and health education programs in rural areas and provides training for Western students.

Since its November unveiling in Morgantown, the unit has provided dental services and health screenings in Butler and Warren counties. The additional funding will allow the unit to continue operations for the next fiscal year and increase the number of weekly outings. The unit also is scheduled to visit Allen and Simpson counties.

"Our students and faculty will become engaged in community based learning experiences while providing much needed preventative services and other health promotion activities to the most needy," said Dr. David Dunn, director of WKU's School of Health and Human Services.

According to the 2000 Census and other reports, 16.3 percent of Kentucky's rural residents have no health insurance and 85 of the state's 120 counties are classified as medically underserved areas.

The Mobile Health and Wellness Unit is part of a rural health initiative by Western's Institute for Rural Health Development and Research. The institute is located in the School of Health and Human Services.

"Many rural Kentuckians have no health insurance or live in underserved communities creating regions where families are in perpetual health decline," said Staci Simpson, director of the Institute for Rural Health Development and Research. "It is our ultimate goal to enhance accessibility to health screenings and education for those who have traditionally not been able to receive these services. We will create a bridge for families to receive further services through collaboration with other health care organizations and agencies."

Funding for the rural health unit was part of \$5.1 million in federal appropriations obtained in the fiscal year 2002 budget for WKU projects through the efforts of Sen. McConnell as well as Rep. Ron Lewis (R-Ky.).

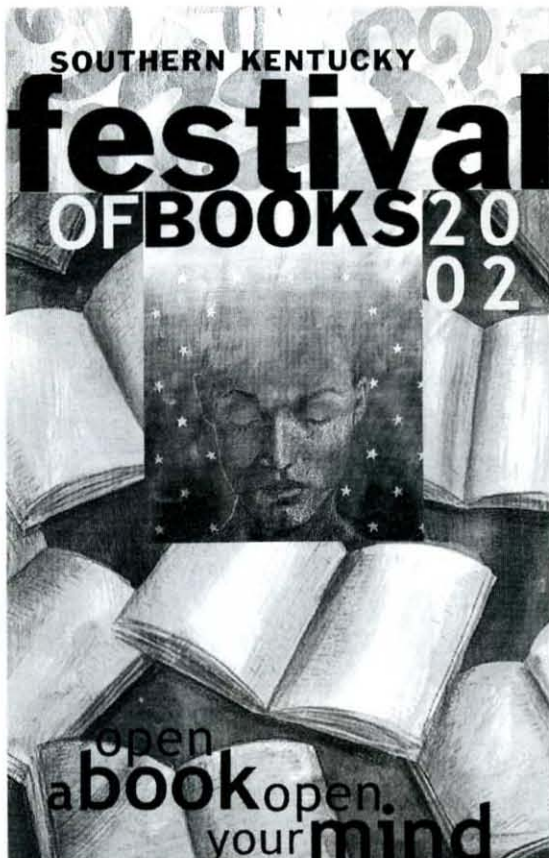
Other funding approved by Congress includes \$1.2 million for waste management research, \$500,000 for a juvenile delinquency initiative, \$1 million for foreign journalist training, \$100,000 for work at Lost River Cave, \$500,000 for educational technology training, \$500,000 for the Kentucky Emergency Medical Services Academy, \$300,000 for Healthy Farm Families Initiative and \$500,000 for rural water program. Western also is participating with the universities of Kentucky and Louisville in a \$3.5 million appropriation to Fort Knox for a battlefield technology research partnership.

"We are grateful for the confidence Sen. McConnell has placed in Western Kentucky University," President Gary Ransdell said. "This funding will help us continue to provide essential services to our region while providing our students and faculty with opportunities to conduct relevant research and practical training. This kind of support is essential to our mission of becoming the best comprehensive university in Kentucky and among the best in the nation and we sincerely appreciate Sen. McConnell's leadership in making it happen."

The Mobile Health and Wellness Unit, which cost \$267,000, is part of a rural health initiative by Western's Institute for Rural Health Development and Research. The institute is located in the School of Health and Human Services.

"Many rural Kentuckians have no health insurance or live in underserved communities creating regions where families are in perpetual health decline," said Staci Simpson, director of the Institute for Rural Health Development and Research. "It is our ultimate goal to enhance accessibility to health screenings and education for those who have traditionally not been able to receive these services. We will create a bridge for families to receive further services through collaboration with other health care organizations and agencies."





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www.sokybookfest.org
270.745.5263

Southern Kentucky Festival of Books 2002

Friday, April 19, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Saturday, April 20, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

at the Sloan Convention Center

This year's festival is shaping up to be bigger and better than ever. Highlights of this year's festival include:

- More than 200 authors
- Headliners include Marsha Mason, Homer Hickam, Christopher Whitcomb, Eileen Goudge, Jim Huber, Donna Napoli, Karen Robards and many, many more
- You-finish-the-story fiction writing contest with beginning paragraphs by Bobbi Ann Mason and Jerrie Oughton
- Poetry Café, featuring readings by about a dozen poets
- Coffee and pastries will be on sale
- Salute to the literary giants of Kentucky
- Robert Penn Warren, James Still, Harriette Arnow, Harry Caudill, Jesse Stuart, Jim Wayne Miller and more
- Increased number of children's activities, many incorporating the talents of more than 50 confirmed children's authors, plus music, drama, make & do, storytelling and a poetry tree
- 8th annual WKU Film and Video Festival featuring a competition among high school students, with the winning productions screened on site

Organizers of the festival, WKU Libraries/ Kentucky Museum, the Bowling Green Public Library and Barnes & Noble, are proud of the event and the attention it brings to the importance of reading and, ultimately, literacy. We are indebted to many individuals, businesses, corporations and media who provide both monetary and in-kind support to make the festival happen.

For detailed information about the authors and all activities, call the Festival office, (270) 745-5263 or check the Festival website:

www.sokybookfest.org

The Hilltoppers

If you remember singing along to "P.S. I Love You," "Till Then" and "Marianne," you won't want to miss the Kentucky Museum's upcoming exhibit on the popular 1950s quartet, The Hilltoppers, opening May 11, 2002.

The Kentucky Museum is interested in any Hilltoppers memorabilia you might have. If you have items you would like to donate to The Hilltoppers Collection, please contact Sue Lynn Stone at (270) 745-4793 or sue-lynn.stone@wku.edu.

If you are a Hilltoppers fan who would like to record your favorite Hilltoppers' memory in the University Archives, you can do so by sending a letter of reminiscences to Sue Lynn Stone, University Archives, The Kentucky Building, Western Kentucky University, Big Red Way, Bowling Green, KY 42104-3576 or e-mail Sue Lynn at sue-lynn.stone@wku.edu.

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